

Message Text

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USIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLON

USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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TAGS: PFOR,UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY - AUGUST 30, 1975

USINFO FOR IOP/M
CINCEUR FOR POLAD
USIA FOR IBS, IEE, IPS

1. MIDDLE EAST. IN FIRST INDEPENDENT COMMENTARY SINCE BEGINNING OF SECRETARY'S TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST, PRAVDA (I. KALITA) CALLS POTENTIAL PRESENCE OF US OBSERVERS IN THE SINAI A "COMPLICATING ELEMENT." KALITA SAYS THAT AGREEMENT UNDER CONSIDERATION IS IN ANY CASE "PARTIAL... LIMITED IN SIGNIFICANCE," WHICH "NOT ONLY DOES NOT REPLACE, BUT DOES NOT BRING CLOSER A GENERAL POLITICAL SETTLEMENT." HE EXPLAINS THAT EFFECTIVE OBSERVATION OF THE CEASE-FIRE HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY THE PRESENCE OF UN CONTINGENTS, THEN ASKS "WHY HAS IT BECOME NECESSARY TO VIOLATE THIS ARRANGEMENT ALREADY AGREED UPON AND SUBSTITUTE FOR THE EXISTING INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM A LESS WORTHY SYSTEM OF VERIFICATION BY ONLY ONE OF THE POWERS, WHOSE PRO-ISRAELI STANCE IS IN ANY CASE NO SECRET TO ANYONE?" KALITA POINTS OUT CONCERN IN THE US AND IN CONGRESS OVER THE POSSIBILITY THAT SUCH US PRESENCE COULD LEAD TO DIRECT INVOLVEMENT IN CONFLICT. HE CONCLUDES THAT THE "PATH, ON WHICH CERTAIN PEOPLE ARE TRYING TO PUSH THE US ... IS HARDLY ONE WHICH WILL MAKE EASIER THE ACHIEVEMENT OF PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST." ADDITIONAL COMMENTARY IN KRASNAYA ZVEZDA (PONOMAREV AND VINOGRADOV) CONCENTRATES ON ISRAELI EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE ITS AIMS IN THE MIDDLE EAST BY "DIVIDING THE ARAB STATES BY MEANS OF SEPARATE NEGOTIATIONS IN ORDER TO DELAY SOLUTION OF THE MIDDLE EAST CRISIS IN GENERAL THROUGH THE USE OF SEPARATE, PARTIAL AGREEMENTS." COMMENTATORS DESCRIBE ISRAELI EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN MILITARY MIGHT, AND CONTEND THAT IN THIS EFFORT ISRAEL IS COUNTING ON US AID TO TUNE OF \$3.25 BILLION.

2. PORTUGAL. (A) IN THE SECOND AUTHORITATIVE "OBSERVER" COMMENTARY IN 11 DAYS, PRAVDA AGAIN ATTACKS OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF PORTUGAL. "OBSERVER" WRITES THAT PRO-VOCATEURS ARRIVING FROM ABROAD, "AGENTS OF FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES," AND PORTUGUESE REACTIONARY FORCES ARE UNITING IN A "CRUSADE AGAINST THE NEW PORTUGAL." HE ADDS THAT "SEVERAL HIGHLY-PLACED PEOPLE" IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH ARE ALSO PLAYING AN ACTIVE ROLE. HE ASCRIBES "SERIOUS RESPONSIBILITY" FOR THE UNCLASSIFIED

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PRESENT SITUATION TO THE LEADERSHIP OF THE PSP. "OBSERVER" WRITES THAT THE PRESENT PRESS CAMPAIGN IN THE WEST IS INTENDED TO CREATE THE EXCUSE FOR "CRUDE AND CYNICAL" POLITICAL BLACK-MAIL AND ECONOMIC PRESSURE. AS EXAMPLES OF SUCH INTERFERENCE HE AGAIN CITES COMMON MARKET, NATO, AND WEST EUROPEAN SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC ACTIVITIES. HE ARGUES THAT THOUGH BRUNT OF THESE EFFORTS ARE NOW AIMED AT THE PCP, THEY ENDANGER IN THE LONG RUN THE FREEDOM OF NOT

ONLY THE PCP, BUT ALSO THREATEN REPRESSION OF "ALL DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZATIONS, BE THEY SOCIALIST, LIBERAL, OR LIBERAL-CATHOLIC" -- SOMETHING

THAT "ALL OF THOSE TO WHOM THE CAUSE OF DEMOCRACY AND PROGRESS IN PORTUGAL IS DEAR SHOULD REMEMBER." "OBSERVER" EXPRESSES "FRATERNAL SOLIDARITY" OF SOVIET COMMUNISTS AND SOVIET PEOPLE WITH DEMOCRATIC FORCES IN PORTUGAL. HE CONCLUDES THAT "THE CPSU, THE ENTIRE SOVIET PEOPLE UNANIMOUSLY CALL FOR AN END TO IMPERIALIST PRESSURE ON PORTUGAL AND CESSATION OF BLACKMAIL AND INTERFERENCE IN ITS INTERNAL AFFAIRS. THE PORTUGUESE PEOPLE HAVE CHOSEN THE PATH OF DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT, AND NO ONE HAS THE RIGHT TO PREVENT IT FROM PROCEEDING ALONG THE PATH IT HAS FREELY CHOSE."

(B) OTHER COVERAGE ON PORTUGAL IN PRAVDA INCLUDES EXTENSIVE EXCERPTS FROM CUNHAL STATEMENT AUG 29. HIGHLIGHTED ARE CUNHAL'S WARNINGS THAT THREAT OF "ARMED CONFRONTATIONS" NOW FACING PORTUGAL WHICH COULD LEAD TO CIVIL WAR. ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT NO LONGER ABLE BY ITSELF TO RESOLVE SITUATION. CONFERENCE OF ALL "MAIN GROUPS AND FORCES" SHOULD MEET URGENTLY TO CONSIDER SOLUTIONS. PRAVDA'S SIGNED REPORT DATED LISBON (YERMAKOV) CONTENDS THAT "PERIOD OF A CERTAIN BALANCE" HAS ARRIVED IN SEARCH FOR COMPROMISE SOLUTIONS AS LEFTIST FORCES CONTINUE THEIR FURTHER CONSOLIDATIONS. IZVESTIYA QUOTES IN SEPARATE ITEMS (UNDER HEADLINE "ELOQUENT ADMISSIONS") EXCERPTS FROM THE WASHINGTON POST AND THE NYT DESCRIBING EC CONDITIONS FOR ECONOMIC AID TO PORTUGAL AND WESTERN EUROPEAN SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC CONTRIBUTION OF "SEVERAL MILLION DOLLARS" TO THE PSP.

3. AFRICA. PRAVDA REPORTS CEASE-FIRE IN ANGOLA BETWEEN MPLA AND FNLA, COMMENTING THAT RENEWAL OF ARMED CONFLICT HAD BEEN PROVOKED BY "IMPERIALIST CIRCLES" INTENT ON PRESERVING THEIR POSITION IN THAT COUNTRY.

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4. ASIA. NORTH VIETNAMESE INDEPENDENCE DAY AND DEDICATION OF HO CHI MINH MAUSOLEUM RECEIVE EXTENSIVE COVERAGE. KOSYGIN IN SPEECH AT RECEPTION IN MOSCOW SAYS THAT SOVIETS ARE HELPING VIETNAMESE PEOPLE "IN A FRATERNAL MANNER" AND SAYS THAT COOPERATIVE EFFORTS ARE "CONSTANTLY INCREASING." SOLOMENTSEV SPEAKING IN HANOI SAYS THAT THE USSR "ASCRIBES GREAT SIGNIFICANCE TO COOPERATION WITH VIETNAM IN THE WORLD ARENA AND TO STRENGTHENING ITS INTERNATIONAL AUTHORITY"; USSR THUS "DECISIVELY SUPPORTS" ITS ENTRY INTO THE UN.
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